



MEDI-CAL COUNTY PROGRAM
MONTHLY AVERAGES
FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

Medi-Cal Report Published: July 2001
Internet Homepage - <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/MCSS>

ABSTRACT

Summary of average monthly Medi-Cal program data, eligibles as a percent of the county population, rates of users per 100 eligibles, and cost per user for each county.

INTRODUCTION

Utilization and provider payments for Medi-Cal services vary from county to county. This report updates prior reports and offers county data for Fiscal Year 1999-2000.

Grantland Johnson
Secretary
California Health and Human
Services Agency

Gray Davis
Governor
State of California

Diana M. Bontá, R.N., Dr. P.H.
Director
Department of Health Services

HIGHLIGHTS

Table 1

Statewide, an average of 5,055,258 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month of Fiscal Year (FY) 1999-2000. The Medi-Cal population reflected 14.7 percent of California's total population.

The percentage of the population eligible for Medi-Cal varies sharply from county to county. In Yuba County, 26.3 percent of the population was eligible while in Marin County, only 4.4 percent was eligible.

In most of the counties (43 of the 58), at least one person out of ten was eligible for Medi-Cal during 1999-2000.

In Los Angeles County, 1,884,740 persons were eligible for Medi-Cal each month. This was 19.1 percent of the county's population. Los Angeles County accounted for 37.3 percent of the Statewide Medi-Cal population.

Over half of the total Medi-Cal population was located in only for counties: Los Angeles, San Diego and San Bernardino and Orange.

Table 2

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Statewide, the percentage of persons who were eligible for regular Medi-Cal who actually used a covered service averaged 70.0 percent in FY 1999-2000.

Forty-seven California counties had user rates of 50.0 percent or more in FY 1999-2000. Alpine County, whose eligible population averaged 188 persons per month, had the lowest user rate, 31.4 percent.

Statewide, the average cost per user was \$519.79. Sonoma County's cost per user of \$1,041.60 was the highest and the lowest cost per user was Alpine County's \$271.03.

In thirteen counties, the cost per user rates ran 25 percent or more below the statewide average. Three counties had rates 25 percent or more above the statewide average.

Various factors may influence the average cost per user in a county. One factor is the relative proportion of users receiving the more costly services, such as state hospital services; acute care hospital inpatient services, or long-term care.

DATA QUALIFICATIONS

Figures in this report do not represent the official budget figures for medical and related expenditures.

Expenditures in this report represent cash flow payments for medical care. Included are provider payments made through Delta Dental, state hospitals, and the major fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems.

Excluded for this report are Medi-Cal payments for Early Periodic Screening, Short Doyle/Medi-Cal, Medicare Buy-In, per capita payments for managed care plan coverage, audit recovery monies, refunds and administrative expenses.

County Organized Health Systems (COHS) are Medi-Cal pilot projects that are prepaid on a capitated at-risk basis. The first COHS went into effect June 1, 1983 in Monterey County and remained in effect through February 1985. A second was effective September 1, 1983 in Santa Barbara County. The Health Plan of San Mateo was effective December 1, 1987. The Partnership HealthPlan - Solano County was effective May 1, 1994 (formerly the Solano Partnership Health Plan). Orange County Organized Health System (CalOPTIMA) was effective October 1, 1995. Santa Cruz County Health Options was effective January 1, 1996. Santa Cruz now has a new name: Central Coast Alliance for Health-Santa Cruz. The Partnership Health Plan – Napa County was effective March 1, 1998. Monterey County became a COHS effective October 1, 1999. Its plan name is Central Coast Alliance for Health-Monterey.

Authorization and payment for most health care services are handled by the COHS for all Medi-Cal eligibles in the respective county. Certain services continue to be handled by other agencies, including dental services, which are handled by Delta Dental (DD) for all counties. The Statewide COHS enrollment averaged 392,181 persons per month during FY 1999-2000.

It should be noted that utilization and cost data for Medi-Cal Health Care Plan (HCP) enrollees are not available and are excluded in Table 2. The Statewide HCP enrollment averaged 2,234,000 persons per month during FY 1999-2000.

A Geographic Managed Care (GMC) pilot project began April 1, 1994. Utilization and payment data reported in Table 2 for Sacramento County reflect only claims processed through the State's fiscal intermediaries (EDS and DD) and claims for state hospital services.

The lower figures for eligibles reported in Table 2 as compared to Table 1 reflect the exclusion of Managed Care Plans. The seven COHS counties are excluded entirely.

TABLE 1
COUNTY POPULATION, MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES
AND MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION
FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

COUNTY	JANUARY 1, 2000 POPULATION	MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLES/1/ (INCLUDING MANAGED CARE PLANS)	ELIGIBLES PER 100 POPULATION
STATEWIDE	34,336,380	5,055,258	14.7
Alameda	1,454,300	192,433	13.2
Alpine	1,190	188	15.8
Amador	34,400	2,510	7.3
Butte	204,000	39,227	19.2
Calaveras	38,500	4,961	12.9
Colusa	18,750	3,123	16.7
Contra Costa	930,000	86,139	9.3
Del Norte	28,000	6,188	22.1
El Dorado	152,900	10,198	6.7
Fresno	805,000	205,679	25.6
Glenn	27,100	4,934	18.2
Humboldt	127,600	21,856	17.1
Imperial	145,300	37,304	25.7
Inyo	18,200	2,388	13.1
Kern	658,900	136,322	20.7
Kings	131,200	21,821	16.6
Lake	55,700	12,724	22.8
Lassen	33,950	4,253	12.5
Los Angeles	9,884,300	1,884,740	19.1
Madera	117,100	25,921	22.1
Marin	249,700	11,011	4.4
Mariposa	16,150	1,892	11.7
Mendocino	87,600	15,686	17.9
Merced	210,100	53,901	25.7
Modoc	9,800	2,054	21.0
Mono	10,900	730	6.7
Monterey	399,300	50,599	12.7
Napa	127,000	8,783	6.9
Nevada	91,100	6,499	7.1
Orange	2,828,400	243,221	8.6
Placer	234,400	14,877	6.3
Plumas	20,350	2,569	12.6
Riverside	1,522,900	200,634	13.2
Sacramento	1,209,500	235,073	19.4
San Benito	49,800	5,175	10.4
San Bernardino	1,689,300	266,792	15.8
San Diego	2,911,500	303,354	10.4
San Francisco	801,400	106,818	13.3
San Joaquin	566,600	107,809	19.0
San Luis Obispo	245,200	21,601	8.8
San Mateo	730,000	41,701	5.7
Santa Barbara	414,200	45,411	11.0
Santa Clara	1,736,700	149,745	8.6
Santa Cruz	255,000	22,883	9.0
Shasta	167,000	31,449	18.8
Sierra	3,140	354	11.3
Siskiyou	44,200	8,247	18.7
Solano	399,000	42,170	10.6
Sonoma	450,100	33,672	7.5
Stanislaus	441,400	83,657	19.0
Sutter	77,900	13,620	17.5
Tehama	56,200	10,523	18.7
Trinity	13,050	2,227	17.1
Tulare	368,000	96,837	26.3
Tuolumne	53,000	6,384	12.0
Ventura	756,500	66,555	8.8
Yolo	162,900	21,899	13.4
Yuba	60,700	15,937	26.3

/ Average Monthly Eligibles.

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service and Managed Care Plans.

Figures are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Population of California Counties,
May 2000.

State of California, Department of Health Services, MEDSSUM File, October 2000.

TABLE 2
MEDI-CAL PROGRAM
AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES, USERS, PROVIDER PAYMENTS,
USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES, AND COST PER USER BY COUNTY
FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

COUNTY	AVERAGE MONTHLY ELIGIBLES/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY USERS/1/	AVERAGE MONTHLY PROVIDER PAYMENTS/1/	USERS PER 100 ELIGIBLES/1/	COST PER USER/1/
TOTAL	2,366,490	1,656,318	\$860,943,092	70.0	\$ 519.79
Alameda	86,295	61,818	35,952,627	71.6	581.59
Alpine	188	59	15,991	31.4	271.03
Amador	2,510	1,505	704,006	60.0	467.78
Butte	39,227	22,007	9,523,488	56.1	432.75
Calaveras	4,961	2,646	953,462	53.3	360.34
Colusa	3,123	1,707	687,674	54.7	402.86
Contra Costa	41,959	28,402	16,098,726	67.7	566.82
Del Norte	6,188	3,617	1,393,765	58.5	385.34
El Dorado	10,198	5,505	2,233,551	54.0	405.73
Fresno	81,037	67,499	26,015,567	83.3	385.42
Glenn	4,934	2,630	1,092,033	53.3	415.22
Humboldt	21,856	13,213	5,669,798	60.5	429.11
Imperial	37,304	19,820	6,858,534	53.1	346.04
Inyo	2,388	1,391	700,337	58.2	503.48
Kern	64,080	44,121	18,694,140	68.9	423.70
Kings	21,821	12,633	4,140,725	57.9	327.77
Lake	12,724	7,795	3,355,361	61.3	430.45
Lassen	4,253	2,505	912,771	58.9	364.38
Los Angeles	785,739	604,772	337,012,771	77.0	557.26
Madera	25,921	13,979	4,850,049	53.9	346.95
Marin	10,767	6,167	3,594,240	57.3	582.82
Mariposa	1,892	1,092	505,667	57.7	463.07
Mendocino	15,686	9,350	4,047,166	59.6	432.85
Merced	53,901	26,248	8,093,430	48.7	308.34
Modoc	2,054	1,144	669,839	55.7	585.52
Mono	730	359	151,048	49.2	420.75
Nevada	6,499	3,839	2,101,647	59.1	547.45
Placer	14,877	8,472	4,526,752	56.9	534.32
Plumas	2,569	1,635	956,880	63.6	585.25
Riverside	99,877	66,820	33,512,811	66.9	501.54
Sacramento/2/	83,513	55,885	26,974,673	66.9	482.68
San Benito	5,175	2,540	1,083,303	49.1	426.50
San Bernardino	135,889	93,946	48,917,591	69.1	520.70
San Diego	139,828	108,469	60,260,752	77.6	555.56
San Francisco	69,943	51,548	33,054,542	73.7	641.24
San Joaquin	47,617	35,255	16,520,298	74.0	468.59
San Luis Obispo	21,601	12,374	5,380,419	57.3	434.82
Santa Clara	85,966	55,924	33,556,025	65.1	600.03
Shasta	31,449	18,465	8,403,509	58.7	455.10
Sierra	354	212	217,311	59.9	1,025.05
Siskiyou	8,247	4,547	1,764,778	55.1	388.12
Sonoma	22,778	18,887	19,672,777	82.9	1,041.60
Stanislaus	44,244	30,531	13,155,766	69.0	430.90
Sutter	13,620	7,678	2,905,015	56.4	378.36
Tehama	10,523	6,227	2,653,371	59.2	426.11
Trinity	2,227	1,333	626,679	59.9	470.13
Tulare	67,818	44,599	23,429,453	65.8	525.34
Tuolumne	6,384	4,072	1,872,579	63.8	459.87
Ventura	66,555	36,440	14,453,278	54.8	396.63
Yolo	21,264	11,356	4,080,410	53.4	359.32
Yuba	15,937	8,599	2,995,748	54.0	348.38
Not Reported	0	4,681	3,939,959	0.0	841.69

OHS) counties are not included in this table due to incomplete data.

Excludes Managed Care Plans.

/2/ Availability of data is limited for Sacramento County.

Most Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles are covered by Geographic Managed Care (GMC).

Note: Includes regular Fee-For-Service. Averages are rounded independently and may not add to totals.

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Services and Expenditures Month of Payment Report.